

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ~~therapeutic combination~~ method for promoting wound healing in mammals, said ~~therapeutic combination~~ method comprising:

reepithelializing a wound surface by predisposing wound healing factors into a negative pressure system, wherein said negative pressure system comprises:

a porous pad which is permeable to fluids and adapted for positioning within a sealable space defined in part by a said wound surface; and

a tube having a first end in fluid communication with said porous pad and a second end in fluid communication with a vacuum source, said vacuum source being adapted to apply negative pressure to said porous pad through said tube; and

~~said porous pad being predisposed with a wound healing factor.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 1, wherein said wound healing factor comprises basic fibroblast growth factor.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 2, wherein said basic fibroblast growth factor is grafted to said porous pad.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 1, wherein said wound healing factor comprises an anti-microbial agent.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 4, wherein said anti-microbial agent comprises an antibiotic.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 1, said ~~therapeutic combination~~ negative pressure system further comprising a wound drape for sealing said porous pad within the sealable space.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 7, wherein a quantity of a said wound healing factor is introduced to said porous pad by injection through said wound drape.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 8, wherein said quantity of wound healing factor is in addition to said wound healing factor predisposed ~~upon~~ into said ~~porous pad~~ negative pressure system.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 9, wherein said quantity of wound healing factor comprises the same type of factor as said wound healing factor predisposed ~~upon~~ into said ~~porous pad~~ negative pressure system.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The ~~therapeutic combination~~ method as recited in claim 1, wherein said wound healing factor is grafted to said pad.